land, rehabilitation related issues, expediting of forest clearances and provision of infrastructure facilities like water and power, ensuring law and order at project sites, etc.), consultants and other agencies;

(iii) setting up of an Empowered Committee in the administrative Ministries concerned for resolution of problems;

(iv) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving problems of inter ministerial nature;

(v) provision of matching funds in the annual budget on the basis of updated costs to facilitate the completion of the projects in advanced stages of implementation; and

(vi) High level reviews, including reviews by the Minister-in-charge.

Speeding up on Central projects

2358. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1040 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 2002 and state:

(a) the details of the measures proposed to speed up Central projects; and

(b) the measures proposed for speedy acquisition of land for the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) The measures taken to speed up implementation of Central Sector projects include:

(i) review of projects on monthly as well as quarterly basis by the Government to identify the constraints and to resolve the problems affecting the implementation of projects;

(ii) indepth critical review of the progress by the project authorities and the Administrative Ministries and follow up with the State Governments for acquisition of land, rehabilitation related issues, expediting forest clearances and provision of infrastructure facilities like water and power, ensuring law and order at project sites, etc, with the manufacturers for expediting supply of equipment, with contractors, consultants and other agencies concerned to minimise delays;

(iii) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving problems of inter ministerial nature;

(iv) appointment of a nodal officer for each project co-terminus with the duration of the project;

(v) setting up of empowered Committees in the Administrative Ministries for resolution of problems;

(vi) release of Standard Contract Management System guidelines for adoption by all Government agencies and public sector enterprises to minimise contractual litigation;

(vii) yearly updating of cost of the project to tie up fund requirement; and

(viii) making available matching funds to complete the projects in the advanced stages of implementation as per schedule.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development has taken steps to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 with a view to simplifying and streamlining the existing procedure, speeding up the acquisition to avoid cost escalation, providing for liberal compensation, ensuring transparency and finality of the award and reducing litigation. The Ministry of Rural Development has also done the ground work for a legislation on rehabilitation of project affected persons applicable to large projects.